

## Getahun at Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County Health Careers for All (HCA)

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Getahun came to the U.S. in the diversity lottery program from Ethiopia on June 13, 2011, with his wife and three children. In Ethiopia, Getahun had worked as a general secretary. Upon his arrival to the U.S., he and his family struggled a lot in adjusting to the new lifestyle and faced serious housing challenges. They were homeless and living with friends at first, then moved to a shelter in downtown Seattle for five months, and were receiving TANF cash assistance.

Getahun was determined to get any skill training to find employment. He was motivated to join the healthcare field as he saw opportunities for employment and career advancement. With the career counseling and guidance of an HCA healthcare navigator, Getahun chose to become a Nursing Assistant–Certified (NA-C) to start his career in healthcare. He enrolled in the HCA program in August 2011, supported by the Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) funded by the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Family Assistance, and completed NA-C training in October 2011.

In February 2012, Getahun obtained his state license and started full-time employment as an NA-C at a long-term care facility. In March 2012, the family secured housing with Wellspring Family Services and was able to move off of TANF. Getahun says that he is grateful for the opportunity to get the NA-C training, to find employment, and to be able to provide for his family.